

WELCOME TO

1ST GRADE

Please begin filling out the yellow transportation card on your desk!

Daniel Pratt Elementary School
First Grade Transportation

Name _____
Teacher _____

Walker _____
Car Rider _____
After School Care _____
Bus # _____
1st Load _____ 2nd Load _____

Address _____
Parents' Name(s) _____
Home Address _____
Parent's Best Contact Number(s) _____
Alternate Contact Name & Number _____



ABOUT ME

🍏 Mrs. Castle 🍏

- This is my 4th year teaching at Daniel Pratt! I taught two years in 5th grade, and this is my second year in 1st grade.
- I am a Prattville native! I graduated from Prattville High School.
- Education
 - Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood & Elementary Education – AUM.
 - Master's degree in Elementary Education – UWA.
 - Education Specialist Degree in Elementary Education – UWA.



ABOUT ME

- o I'm married to my wonderful husband, Matt. We are so excited to be growing our family and will be welcoming our first child any day now!
- o We have two miniature long-haired dachshunds named Dash and Winnie. They are our babies!
- o I love all things Disney World! We try to go to Disney once a year.
- o I also love spending time with my family, working out, Christmas time, iced coffee, Vanilla Coke, Dr. Pepper, Moe's, and Target!



ABOUT ME

🍏 Mrs. Ellison 🍏

- ...I'm married to to my wonderful husband, Jason and we have one child Clay who is in 6th grade.
- I taught Pre-K 4 for the last seven years.
- I love the beach and shopping. My son races we spend a lot of our time traveling for racing!
- My favorite things are Diet Coke, Peanut Butter M&M's and TJ Maxx!



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Walking Your Child to School

- On the first day of school, you are welcomed to walk your child to class!
- Please see the schedule in your Open House Folder!
- This is ONLY for the first day of school.

STUDENT SUPPLIES

School Supplies

All school supplies are no longer provided by Autauga County Schools. Please see our class Supply List! I will be providing some supplies that I already have not included on the list.

Water Bottles

We have refill stations setup around the school for water bottles. I suggest sending a cup with your child that they can easily open and close. This helps us avoid spills. (:

Headphones

Your child will need a sturdy set of **WIRED** headphones to keep at school.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Overview

- Reading Intervention, Whole Group, and Small Group will be in the morning.
- Math Intervention, Whole Group, and Small Group will be in the afternoon.
- Science and Social Studies will be in the afternoon.

Important Times

These are some important times throughout the day that you will need to be aware of.

- Lunch 11:14 – 11:37
- P.E. 1:10 – 1:50
- Snack 1:55 – 2:10
- Music Every other Monday 8:15 – 9:00
- Library Tuesdays 10:30 – 11:00

CARPOOL - MORNING

- Carpool drop-off starts at 7:10 and ends at 7:55. Please do not leave before you see the person supervising drop-off.
- Front parking lot is closed to the public until 7:55
- If you arrive after 7:55, you must go to the front office to check your child in.
- There is no longer a “back loop” off of McQueen Smith for morning drop off. This will be used for buses only!!
- Jay Street is the ONLY entrance for carpool.
- Please see the carpool map in your Open House folder.
- Carpool tags are not needed for morning drop off.

CARPPOOL - AFTERNOON

- You MUST have the carpool tag displayed in your car at carpool. If you do not have your carpool sign, you will be asked to show your ID.
- You MUST go to the carpool table in the lunchroom today to receive your hang carpool tag!!
- Extra tags are \$5 each

CARPPOOL - VIDEO



DISMISSAL

- Students will have a color-coded tag (yellow) tied to their backpack for the first few weeks of school. Please do not remove this! I will replace it if it falls off or becomes damaged.
- Any transportation changes MUST be sent to me in writing (riding home with a friend, carpool instead of walker, etc.) I cannot accept transportation changes through ParentSquare.
- If you send a ParentSquare message during the school day about a transportation change, it is likely I may not see it before dismissal.
- The buses will have pictures of animals on them this year to help students recognize their buses!

DISMISSAL

Dismissal Schedule

- Walkers dismiss out green hall doors at 2:50

** Please look for the designated walker pick-up signs and wait for your child there. You are not allowed to wait under the front breezeway. You cannot park in the front parking lot to pickup your child. You must park on Tara Dr. instead. **

- Daycare riders dismiss to gym at 2:50
- Car riders dismiss at 2:52
- 1st load bus riders dismiss at 3:00
- 2nd load bus riders dismiss at 3:05
- YMCA dismiss to DPES gym at 3:07

** If your child is a bus rider, please find out if your child is riding the 1st load or 2nd load. The transportation department's phone number is (334) 361-3897. They will be happy to assist you to find out that information!**

SMORE'S BINDER

- Left side pocket – Leave at home
- Colored Sheet Protector – Sign and return to school
- Zipper Pouch – Place all money in an envelope with your child's name on it inside the pouch (snack money, field trip, etc.)
- Reading Materials – Weekly reading packet will be placed in binders every Monday (in homework sheet protector).
- Behavior Sheet – Initial daily
- Graded/Important Papers – These will be placed in the colored sheet protector. Anything in this sheet protector needs to be signed and returned ASAP.
- Please DO NOT remove any of the other things (100's chart, sound wall, math resources, etc.) from your child's binder. They will utilize these resources in class!

HOMework

- I do not like to assign a ton of homework. I believe children should be able to enjoy themselves after school! Some homework can be beneficial, though.
- The MOST beneficial way to help your child is to read with them every day! You can read to them, read with them, or have them read to you.
- I do send home a weekly Reading Homework sheet every Monday. This sheet will outline the important skills we are covering each week, a reading passage to practice at home, spelling words, etc.
- Designate a certain amount of time to read with your child and review skills each night. Working with your child and reading to them is ESSENTIAL to your child's success in school.

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

If you would like to send in a birthday treat to celebrate your child's birthday, you may.

- o The treat **MUST** be pre-packaged/store bought.
- o Students will eat birthday treats during snack.
- o Send it to school with your child in the morning.
- o If you send birthday invitations to school, you **MUST** invite the whole class.

MONEY

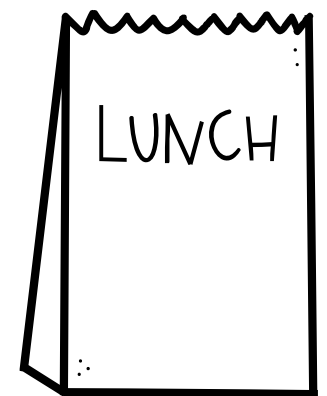
- Please send all money in an envelope with your child's name, reason for money, amount, and teacher's name. Place this inside the zipper pouch located in your child's binder.
- The front office will not accept any money to be delivered to the classroom.
- I must have all money turned into the office by 8:15 each morning. I cannot accept money past this time.
- Please send exact change only for snack money.
- All money deadlines are FINAL. There will be no exceptions.

SNACK

- You may send your child with a snack from home or snack money.
- No sodas allowed unless it is a Special Snack day!!
- Cash only, exact change
- Snacks can only be purchased one day at a time.
- Special Snack will be on some Fridays as a reward. Students will be able to purchase soda, candy, and other special treats. Soda and Candy will be \$1.25 each.
- Please see the DPES website for exact Snack Shack Prices.
Some snack prices include:
 - Gatorade and water \$1
 - Chips \$.75
 - Fruit Roll Ups \$.50

LUNCH

- Student lunch is free for all students this year!
- Students may purchase extra items at lunch if needed. Please see the lunchroom website for prices.
- You can send in cash, check, or load your child's lunch account using PayPams (for extras).
- Checks written for lunch should be addressed to DPES.
- Students cannot warm up their lunch from home.
- Parents are not allowed to eat in the lunchroom every day. Family lunch days will occur throughout the year. Dates will be announced at a later time.



BREAKFAST

- Student breakfast is free for all students this year!
- If your child will be eating breakfast at school, please remind them to go to the lunchroom upon arrival to school to eat!
- Monthly breakfast menus can be found on the DPES website.

GRADING POLICY

- Students will have to pass Reading, Math, and Language Arts with a yearly average of 60 or higher in order to be promoted to 2nd grade.
- Students receive letter grades in Reading, Math, and Language Arts.
- **Grading scale**
 - 90 – 100: A
 - 80 – 89: B
 - 70 – 79: C
 - 60 – 69: D
 - 59 & below: F

Reading & Math

- 60% Major Grades (tests)
- 40% Minor Grades (minor grades)

Science & Social Studies

- S, N, U Grading

Report Cards & Progress Reports

Progress reports will go home every 4 ½ weeks and report cards go home every 9 weeks. You can find exact dates for these on the ACBOE calendar.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Please read over the attendance policies in the Student Handbook.
- If your child is absent, you MUST send in an excuse within 3 days of their absence.
- Students can now only have 7 parent excuses for the entire school year. After using all 7 parent excuses, absences will be mark unexcused unless a doctor's note is provided.
- If an absence is unexcused, students cannot make up any graded assignments they missed. We are required to give students a zero.
- It is your child's responsibility to turn in their excuse in the mornings. They will place it in the "Drop Box." I remind them and teach them this routine!
- All excuses must be handwritten!! A ParentSquare message will NOT count as an excuse!!

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Class Dojo

Class Dojo will be used to monitor student behavior (point system). Parents will not sign up for Class Dojo. I will communicate with you about your child's behavior through ParentSquare.

Behavior Chart

Students will have a behavior chart in their binder that will be updated daily. Please initial each square daily. I will write notes about student's behavior. Please see the behavior plan in the Open House Folder for details.

Demerit System

System for common areas (Please see DPES Handbook)

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Class Gumball Machine

- If students stay on green or higher all week will get to use the Gumball Machine on Fridays.
- If a student gets a yellow, red, or orange they will not use the gumball machine.
- If a student receives an office referral or demerit, they will not get to use the Gumball Machine that week.
- The Gumball Machine will not be enforced until I return from maternity leave! This will ensure students have had plenty of time to learn the rules and routines.

Fun Fridays

- Students are rewarded for good behaviors on Friday with different rewards: special snack, extra recess time, games, art, etc.

CONTACT INFO

ParentSquare

- This is my MAIN form of communication and the fastest way to reach me!
- We are PARTNERS in education! I believe in strong communication between parents and teachers.
- Please be sure to download the ParentSquare app!
- If you haven't already, please do this before you leave today!!
- Please make sure you have notifications turned on!
- Mrs. Ellison will be running our class ParentSquare account while I am on maternity leave.

Email

- I can also be contacted by email at baylee.castle@acboe.net
- Please note, I will not be checking emails while on maternity leave.

Front Office

- 361-6400

Class Website

<https://www.dpeseagles.com/baylee-snisky>

CONTACT INFO

- Please allow 24 hours for a response (per administration). I typically respond pretty quickly, but please understand that I cannot respond in the middle of teaching.
- I do not check or respond to messages after 3:30. I will get back to you the following school morning.
- I do not check messages on weekends.
- Please do not hesitate to reach out to me about any questions or concerns.

IMPORTANT INFO.

- Accidents happen! Please have an extra set of clothes in your child's backpack inside the provided baggie. These clothing items will remain in your child's backpack incase of emergency.
- Mrs. Finch does schoolwide callouts every Sunday at 3:00. You will receive the callout through the primary number you provided in Power School.
- Please be sure to label all items (lunchbox, jackets, water bottles, etc.)
- Please review all important information in your Open House folder! There are a lot of important papers and information to read over. Please return all paperwork by Monday, August 14th.
- Please do not allow your child to bring fidget poppers, spinners, etc. to school. This is per the Student Handbook.

BEFORE YOU GO...

- Please fill out the yellow transportation card and leave it on your child's desk before you leave!! I need this filled out today.
- Visit the lunchroom for the following:
 - Bus transportation
 - Carpool signs
 - Parent Volunteer Sign-Up
 - Supply Sales
 - School T-Shirt Sales
 - DPES Water Bottle Sales
 - Snack Shack Envelope Sales

THANK YOU!!

Thank you so much for
coming! We are looking
forward to an AMAZING year
in 1st grade!!

CLIPART

